

for which the agreement was terminated and is fully capable of carrying out the cooperative agreement. Any reinstatement shall be by Federal rule-making in accordance with § 745.11.

(b) OSM may recommend approval of the reinstatement to the Secretary if it finds that the State meets all the requirements for the initial approval of a cooperative agreement under this subchapter.

(c) The Secretary may approve reinstatement of a cooperative agreement if the Secretary concurs in findings of OSM which recommended that approval.

## **PART 746—REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINING PLANS**

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AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 1201 *et seq.* and 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 48 FR 6941, Feb. 16, 1983, unless otherwise noted.

### **§ 746.1 Scope.**

This part provides the process and requirements for the review and approval, disapproval or conditional approval of mining plans on lands containing leased Federal coal.

### **§ 746.10 Information collection.**

The information collection requirements contained in this section have been approved by OSM of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0026. The information is being collected to determine compliance with section 523 of the Act (30 U.S.C. 1273) and this part. The obligation to respond to the information collection requirements of this part is mandatory.

### **§ 746.11 General requirements.**

(a) No person shall conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations on lands containing leased Fed-

eral coal until the Secretary has approved the mining plan.

(b) Surface coal mining and reclamation operations on lands containing leased Federal coal shall be conducted in accordance with a permit issued in accordance with this subchapter, any lease terms and conditions, and the approved mining plan.

### **§ 746.13 Decision document and recommendation on mining plan.**

OSM shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a decision document recommending approval, disapproval or conditional approval of the mining plan to the Secretary. The recommendation shall be based, at a minimum, upon:

(a) The permit application package, including the resource recovery and protection plan;

(b) Information prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*;

(c) Documentation assuring compliance with the applicable requirements of other Federal laws, regulations and executive orders other than the Act;

(d) Comments and recommendations or concurrence of other Federal agencies, as applicable, and the public;

(e) The findings and recommendations of the Bureau of Land Management with respect to the resource recovery and protection plan and other requirements of the lease and the Mineral Leasing Act;

(f) The findings and recommendations of the regulatory authority with respect to the permit application and the State program; and

(g) The findings and recommendations of OSM with respect to the additional requirements of this subchapter.

### **§ 746.14 Approval, disapproval or conditional approval, of mining plan.**

The Secretary shall approve, disapprove or conditionally approve the mining plan in accordance with this part.

### **§ 746.17 Term of approval.**

(a) Each mining plan approval shall cover the operations for which a complete permit application package was submitted, unless otherwise indicated in the approval.

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(b) An approved mining plan shall remain in effect until modified, cancelled or withdrawn and shall be binding on any person conducting mining under the approved mining plan.

**§ 746.18 Mining plan modification.**

(a) Mining plan modifications shall be approved by the Secretary.

(b) The approval of mining plan modifications shall be in accordance with the procedures of this part for mining plan approval.

(c) Surface coal mining and reclamation operations on lands containing leased Federal coal pursuant to a permit revision issued by the regulatory authority shall not commence until—

(1) OSM determines that the permit revision does not constitute a mining plan modification under this section, or

(2) If the permit revision constitutes a mining plan modification under this section, such modification has been approved by the Secretary.

(d) Permit revisions constitute mining plan modifications if they meet any of the following criteria:

(1) Any change in the mining plan which would affect the conditions of its approval pursuant to Federal law or regulation other than the Act;

(2) Any change which would adversely affect the level of protection afforded any land, facility or place designated unsuitable for mining;

(3) Any change in the location or amount of coal to be mined, except where such change is the result of:

(i) A minor change in the amount of coal actually available for mining from the amount estimated; or

(ii) An incidental boundary change;

(4) Any change which would extend coal mining and reclamation operations onto leased Federal coal lands for the first time;

(5) Any change which requires the preparation of an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act or 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*;

(6) Any change in the mining operations and reclamation plan that would result in a change in the postmining land use where the surface is federally-owned.